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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Please do not end competitor access to unbundled DSL networks. This access encourages market competition which provides customers with more choices. Personally, I rely on an AT&T competitor to provide me with reliable and affordable internet access.

I am a full time student with a modest income, as are many others in my neighborhood. I depend on internet access for research and, increasingly, for access to course materials. Without this access my performance as a student would suffer.

I am also a former AT&T customer. I switched to a competitor in May 2018. AT&T's internet service had become unreliable. I often lost service intermittently during the evening, when I needed the internet the most for school work, and would completely lose service during rain storms. After visits from 4 technicians over the course of 3 months, the problem could not be identified.

Frustrated, I looked for a new service provider. There were two in my neighborhood: Time Warner, which was out of my price range, and Sonic, a small competitor whose service was within my budget. I began service with Sonic and have been completely satisfied ever since. I could once again come home after a long day of lectures and work on assignments knowing that I would not lose my internet connection. Had that small competitor not been available I would have had to continue my unreliable service with AT&T or simply gone without service.

Competition in the market of internet service allowed me to choose a provider that fit my needs. Customers like myself, students and other low income individuals, should not be forced to go without internet access because of lack of competition. Please do not eliminate competitor access to unbundled networks.

Kevin Dockter